Part 650	Elementary Soils Engineering	Chapter 4
Engineering Field Handbook		Minnesota Supplement

Exhibit 4-35.1 Typical Permeability Values by Soil Type

Soil Type (USCS)	Description	Representative Permeability (k) ft/day	Acceptable Permeability Range (k) ft/day
GW	Rounded clean well graded gravel	400	>10
GP	Pearock, ASTM C33 fine aggregate size 8, MNDOT 3127 FA-3 Coarse limit of ASTM D448 Size No. 78 gravel Fine limit of ASTM D448 Size No. 78 gravel	16000 24 13	>10
SW	Rounded clean well graded sand	75	>3
SP	Coarse limit of ASTM C33 sand Fine limit of ASTM C33 sand	110 30	>3
GM	Silty gravel with less than 15% fines Silty gravel with 15 to 30% fines Silty gravel with more than 30% fines	14 0.28 0.14	10 ² -10 ⁻³
SM	Silty sand with less than 15% fines Silty sand with 15 to 30% fines Silty sand with more than 30% fines	2.13 0.71 0.14	10 ² -10 ⁻³
GC	Clayey gravel with PI between 15 and 30 1)	0.00283	10 ⁻³ -10 ⁻⁵
SC	Sandy clay with PI between 10 and 15 1)	0.00283	10 ⁻³ -10 ⁻⁵
ML	Low plastic silt with PI of less than 7 1) Low plastic silt with PI between 7 and 10 1)	0.017 0.0085	10 ¹ -10 ⁻³
CL	Low plastic silt with PI between 7 and 10 1) Low plastic clay with PI between 10 and 15 1) Low plastic clay with PI between 15 and 25 1)	0.0085 0.00283 0.00071	10 ⁻³ -10 ⁻⁵
СН	High plastic clay with desiccation cracking High plastic clay without desiccation cracking	0.02835 0.00142	10 ⁻² -10 ⁻⁵

Notes:

- 1. Estimates of soil PI values can be obtained from published soil surveys.
- 2. If extreme moisture or poor compaction conditions are expected, use a permeability value on the upper portion of the acceptable range.
- 3. When designing a filter diaphragm in an embankment, assume the permeability of the soils in the embankment are 100 times greater than the typical values listed in this table.

Chapter 6	Structures	Part 650
Minnesota Supplement	Engineering Field Handbook	

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK